

**AN ORDINANCE  
BY COUNCILMEMBER CLAIR MULLER**

**02- O -0240**

**AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER TWO, ARTICLE, II  
DIVISION 2 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY  
OF ATLANTA BY AMENDING SECTION 2-66; TO SET A  
TIME LIMIT FOR THE CONDUCT OF REGULAR CITY  
COUNCIL MEETINGS; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING  
ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Charter requires that the City Council meet at least twice each month, on the first and third Monday with the exception of April, August and December when the Council is in recess; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta City Council currently holds its full Council meetings on the First and Third Mondays of each month, beginning at 1:00 p.m.; and

WHEREAS, the thorough debate and exploration of the details of legislation is properly done in the City Council Committees which meet during the week immediately preceding Full Council meetings; and

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the function of the City Council Committees there are occasions on which the volume of diligence and debate results in Full Council Meetings which can exceed 12 hours in length; and

WHEREAS, a business meeting that exceeds a normal 8-hour work day is unfair to City Council members and staff who must remain intellectually sharp and capable of making decisions with significant consequences, no matter how late the hour; and

WHEREAS, this practice of marathon Full Council Meetings is an unhealthy practice.

**THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA HEREBY ORDAIN AS  
FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION ONE:** That Chapter Two, Article II, Division 2 of the Code of Ordinances be amended by striking existing Section 2-66 in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof the following:

**Section 2-66 Regular Meetings**

The council shall hold regular meetings commencing at 1:00 p.m. Such regular meetings shall last no later than 8:00 p.m. Any business not concluded by 8:00 p.m. shall be automatically deferred until the committee reports portion of the agenda at next regularly scheduled meeting.

**SECTION TWO:** That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed.